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63 Fairford St. E.,
Moose Jaw, Sask -
13 March, 1918 -

Sir Robert A. Falconer,
President of Toronto University,
Toronto, ONT -

Dear Sir:-

In regard to the "Farm Labor" problem for Students in Saskatchewan;

I would deem it a favor if you would advise me as to what attitude the University of Toronto takes in the following matter:- In view of the urgent need of more help to carry on the necessary farming operations in this Province this year, the Saskatchewan Department of Education will allow a student his year's standing - i.e. They will allow him to continue with his next year's work without writing examinations, provided he is standing well in his class in year's work, attendance, etc., and that he can show a certificate from the farmer where he was employed showing he has worked on his farm exclusively. All standings given will be passed on by the Principal and staff of teachers of the Collegiate.

This regulation may be alright for a student who is not studying for a Senior Matriculation but my position is as follows - I have a Junior Matriculation which I obtained in June 1917, and I am now studying for my Senior Matriculation, which I have reason to expect I will obtain in June of this year, should I continue my studies until that time. If, however, I went out to assist in the seeding operations, which begin about the middle of April and last well on into June, I would be prevented from writing on my examinations and in case I stayed at school to write my examinations, I would not be able to assist in the very urgent seeding operations.

Not knowing whether or not you would recognize such a standing as that given under the authority of the Department of Education here, I am taking the liberty of writing you to ask you for this information.

As I am desirous of entering your University in the course of a year or two, and when entering I would like to have the privilege of taking a Honor Course with my studies, which, however, I am told I cannot do without having my Senior Matriculation Diploma. Is this information correct? or will I be able to enter your University and take an Honor Course there with my Junior Matriculation and the standing that may be given to me under the above mentioned regulations.

Thanking you in advance for an early reply in this matter, giving me full particulars as to what attitude the University would take in such a case,

I remain,

MK/TM - Yours truly, Marshall Kern.

March 18th, 1918

Marshall Kern, Esq.,

68 Fairford Street East,

Moosejaw, Sask.

Dear Sir:

Our experience in granting exemptions to students who have come to us without certificates of honour matriculation has been rather unsatisfactory as so often it has been found that the student was unequal to the task of carrying what was required in an honour course. However, if you remain in a Collegiate Institute until the middle of April and at that time have a certificate from the Principal and staff of the Collegiate stating that in their judgment you are able to pass the work of the Senior Matriculation the University of Toronto will accept you on probation as a student in honours next autumn; that is to say, you will be allowed to enter an honour course taking all the work pass and honour in order that you may discover by Christmas time whether or not you can carry the year.

I may assure you that our regulations are based upon the desire to prevent the student from taking work for which from our experience we know he is not prepared unless he has reached a certain standard of attainment. We are also very glad to welcome any students from the West who will fit into our class work. I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.